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Portland, OR 97220

August 15, 2016

U.S. EPA
ATTN: Harbor Comments
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Studies show that the Willamette River is rehabilitating itself, and that it will continue to cure itself if left to its own devices. Nature's own processes are much more reliable than politically motivated strategies. These types of plans are likely to do more harm than good. My experience from watching the government, especially the EPA, has shown me that actions like what the EPA has planned for the river are purely for the profit of the government. They do not have the best interests of citizens or the environment in mind. I have no desire to promote or add to the corruption that is present in these types of organizations.

The EPA has already demonstrated its incompetence in many areas, such as demanding that loggers remove debris from streams and rivers around their logging sites. In the process, the EPA caused destruction of fish beds and breeding. This cost the logging companies tremendous amounts of money, but it also cost taxpayers more loss of money. The debris ended up having to be put back in the river because it was needed by the fish in order to replenish their population. By allowing them to move ahead with their plans on the Willamette River, the EPA would cause similar destruction. They need to stay out of it and let nature run its course. Nature can certainly do a better job.

The government has already caused tremendous destruction to our economy. The EPA's plan would be a guaranteed waste of billions of dollars and should not even be considered. This plan will not only make things worse, but it will also contaminate the Columbia river downstream from the Willamette as well. I've seen other programs where beaches were dug up and all the sand replaced to get rid of an E. coli problem. Very shortly after that replacement, the E. coli re-established itself on the beach because it comes from the ocean. This was a total waste of money all the way around. Wasting money is something the government seems to be good at. They should be stopped from participating in activities such as this, and the EPA should not be allowed to move forward with its current plans to dredge the Willamette.

Sincerely,

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